Shiksha Abhiyan, Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas, National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology, Sub-Mission on Polytechnics under the coordinated action for skill development, as also programmes for major expansion of access to higher educational institutions alongwith equity and excellence.

Regulation of admission, fee, etc. in deemed universities

985. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether is a fact that Government has decided to regulate admission, fees, etc. in deemed universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of deemed universities covered by above decision and those likely to be covered in next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC), has, at its meeting on 22nd June, 2009 approved the UGC (Fee Structure in Institutions Deemed-to-be-Universities) Regulations, 2009 and UGC (Admission in Professional Programmes of Study at Institutions Deemed-to-be Universities) Regulations, 2009, which are at present with the Government for consideration.

'Sakshar Bharat' programme

986. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently launched a new adult literacy programme named 'Sakshar Bharat' to achieve higher level of literacy in the country;

(b) if so, the funds proposed to be allocated towards this programme, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to bring in teachers for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per approved guidelines of the scheme, only such districts that have adult female literacy rate of 50% or less as per 2001 Census are eligible for coverage under the programme and they will be allocated funds as per approved financial norms subject to budgetary allocations and guidelines laid down by National Literacy Mission Authority.

(c) 'Saakshar Bharat' envisages effective link with the school education system so that teachers who can provide academic support at the village level are enlisted as collaborating partners to complement the panchayats. Teachers would motivate non-literate parents to enroll

as learners, and motivate educated youth in the village to volunteer as teachers for the campaign. The most important function that they can perform would be that of evaluation and assessment of the learners.

Entry of foreign universities

987. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to allow entry of foreign universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to improve the standard of Indian Universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A law for regulating the entry and operations of foreign educational institutions is under consideration of the Government.

(c) to (e) Improvement in the quality of higher educational institutions including the universities is one of the objectives of Eleventh Plan. Several schemes, for improvement in quality of universities have been included in the Five Year Plan which, among others, seek to strengthen existing universities, provide assistance for strengthening basic sciences and other research in universities, incentivise State Governments to invest in Higher Education, and establish new institutions like new Central Universities, and Innovation Universities. State Governments are also encouraged to establish model colleges of excellence in districts with lower than national GER and also new State Universities. In addition, pay and remuneration of teaching faculty have been revised upwards and have been made more attractive so that quality of teaching faculty is strengthened through induction of talented persons. Schemes of expansion as well as strengthening and creation of universities aim towards improvement of academic infrastructure like libraries, laboratories, class rooms, etc. Academic Staff Colleges (numbering 57) funded by the UGC are also geared to improve capacity of in-service teachers through regular programmes.

NABET accreditation for schools

988. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET) has commenced rating of schools on the parameters of infrastructure, support mechanism and school governance to raise the country's educational system to global standards;